GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3546
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2002
EMPLOYMENT ASSURANCE SCHEME
NEDURUMALLI JANARDHANA REDDY;RAM SINGH KASWAN;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Employment Assurance Scheme have proved to be ineffective in achieving its target;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government have recently modified the guidelines of the Scheme;

(d) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Union Government have not allocated adequate funds to various State Governments under the Scheme during the past few years;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the plans formulated by the Government to effectively implement the Scheme in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU)

(a&b): The Employment Assurance Scheme was a demand driven Scheme till 31.3.1999.With effect from 1.4.1999, it was restructured and made an allocation based Scheme and the generation of employment opportunities depended upon the resources made available under the Scheme. During 2000-2001, against the target of 2594.47 lakh mandays, the employment generated was 2183.92 lakh mandays (84%). In the subsequent year (2001-2002), as against the target of 3391.87 lakh mandays, 1178.77 lakh mandays have been generated, as per the latest reports available upto November, 2001.

(c&d): Yes, Sir. The Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) stands merged with the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) w.e.f. 1.4.2002. Besides the Cash Component, foodgrains of equal value will be provided under the Programme for generation of additional wage employment opportunities in all the States/UTs (except Delhi & Chandigarh)and will thereby provide food security and improve the nutritional level. The Cash Component and the foodgrains will continue to be distributed on the basis of poverty ratio.

(e)&(f): The funds under the Scheme are allocated in consultation with the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance keeping in view the overall resources available at the National level, on the basis of poverty ratio. During 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, Rs. 1160.27 crores and 1896.58 crores respectively were released. In addition to cash component, during 2001-2002, foodgrains of the value of Rs. 1719.37 crores were also provided to the States/UTs.

(g): In order to provide greater thrust to create additional employment opportunities, infrastructure development and food security in the rural areas, under the SGRY an annual outlay of Rs. 10,000 crores has been proposed to generate 100 crores mandays of employment